

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC,  
AND COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES  
OF THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA  
DECEMBER 17, 2020 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Trustees met in regular session by Cisco Webex online conferencing on Tuesday, December 17, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was not held in person due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, with the orders to maintain social distancing and avoid group gatherings. The Utility is following the guidance provided by the Iowa Public Information Board and the Governor's Orders on how to conduct electronic public meetings. Muscatine Power and Water (MPW) has made the meeting via Webex available for members of the public who are interested.

Chairperson Susan Eversmeyer called the meeting to order. Members of the Board were present as follows: Trustees Steven Bradford, Kevin Fields, Tracy McGinnis, Keith Porter and Susan Eversmeyer.

Also present were Gage Huston, General Manager of MPW; Brenda Christensen, Board Secretary; Charles Potter, Muscatine Journal; Erika Cox, Brandy Olson, Mark Roberts, Ryan Streck, and Doug White of MPW. Sandy Stanley from Clean Air Muscatine and Freedom Malik-Roberts were present as members of the Muscatine community. Katie Rock, Campaign Representative for Iowa Beyond Coal Campaign was also present.

Chairperson Eversmeyer asked if there was anyone in attendance who wished to make any public comments. Public comments were provided by Sandy Stanley, Katie Rock and Freedom Malik-Roberts.

The minutes of the November 29, 2020, public hearing and regular meeting were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. Trustee Bradford moved, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, that the minutes be approved and placed on file as submitted. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

The list of expenditures and transactions for November 2020 was presented as previously submitted to all Board members. After review, Trustee Fields moved, seconded by Trustee Porter, to ratify payments of \$6,282,649.07 for the Electric Utility, \$530,077.72 for the Water Utility, and \$1,513,210.79 for the Communications Utility for a total amount of \$8,325,937.58. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

Katie Rock left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Huston introduced the next agenda item, which was ratification and approval of two Contract Change Orders (CCO) for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground Phase I, Cable Pull Project. Mr. Huston communicated this project is near completion, but a few changes were needed during the project. CCO No. 1, previously approved by the General Manager, was to add additional splices necessary to accommodate a 180-degree bend that could not be made in a single pull, increasing the contract by \$25,285.65. Ratification for CCO No. 1 is needed from the Board. CCO No. 2 is estimated to increase the amount of the contract by \$289,662.99 and includes additional work to drill and mount structures to poles, construct additional racking in two vaults and additional repair and testing of materials caused by two splice failures. Mr. Huston

provided detail about the splice-kit failures and initial negotiations with the manufacturer to reimburse the Utility for some of the costs incurred. Mr. Huston requested the Board to authorize the GM to execute the final CCO No. 2 upon final negotiation of the total, up to \$289,662.99. After discussion, the following resolutions were submitted:

#### **RESOLUTION 20-35**

WHEREAS, Contract Change Order No. 1 has been prepared to said contract with Marmon Utility, LLC for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground Phase I, Cable Pull Project in the increased total amount of \$25,285.65 and said Contract Change Order has been reviewed by the Board, and Muscatine Power and Water Management has recommended approval of said Contract Change Order; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees that said Contract Change Order No. 1 in the increased total net amount of \$25,285.65 be approved for an amended contract price of \$1,157,229.85 for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground Phase I, Cable Pull Project.

Trustee Bradford moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, that said resolution be passed, approved, and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020. On roll call, Trustees McGinnis, Fields, Porter, Bradford, and Eversmeyer, voted aye. Voting nay, none. Resolution carried.

#### **RESOLUTION 20-36**

WHEREAS, Contract Change Order No. 2 has been prepared to said contract with Marmon Utility, LLC for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground Phase I, Cable Pull Project in the increased estimated total amount of \$289,662.99 and said Contract Change Order has been reviewed by the Board, and Muscatine Power and Water Management has recommended approval of said Contract Change Order; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Water, Electric, and Communications Trustees that authorization be granted to the General Manager to approve said Contract Change Order No. 2 for an increase of up to \$289,662.99 be approved for an amended estimated contract price of \$1,446,892.84 for the Mississippi Drive Corridor Underground Phase I, Cable Pull Project.

Trustee McGinnis moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, that said resolution be passed, approved, and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020. On roll call, Trustees McGinnis, Fields, Porter, Bradford, and Eversmeyer, voted aye. Voting nay, none. Resolution carried.

Mr. Huston next recommended the regularly scheduled December 2021 Board Meeting date of Tuesday, December 28, 2021, be rescheduled to Thursday, December 16, 2021, due to the holidays. Trustee Porter moved, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, that the December 2021 Board Meeting be moved to December 16, 2021. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Huston recommended Trustee Porter be appointed to the MAGIC Board effective January 1, 2021, for a two-year term to represent Muscatine Power and Water, with his term ending

December 31, 2023. Trustee Fields was thanked by Chairperson Eversmeyer and the Board for his term of service on the MAGIC Board, which ends December 31, 2020. Trustee Fields moved, seconded by Trustee McGinnis, to appoint Trustee Porter to the MAGIC Board effective January 1, 2021, for a two-year term. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

In the General Manager's Report, Mr. Huston provided updates on the recent Unit 9 outage and several projects completed during the outage, how to view the Power Breakfast held on December 10 on MPW's YouTube channel and on Local VOD on the Fiber TV system. He also provide an update to the information provided in the closed session in November, held to discuss the programming contracts; he continued with the good news that despite one network coming in very high, the overall rate adjustments Staff had budgeted are aligning closely with new contract pricing. Next Mr. Streck shared the customer-facing electric outage map previously launched by MPW in 2018 had been updated, enhancing the customer experience. The new map provides more granular information about the scope of an outage and will provide time savings for MPW staff and our customers by limiting the number of phone calls received during an outage event. Mr. Streck provided a short demonstration of the new technology.

The November Financial Operating Statements and Balance Sheets for each Utility were reviewed by Mr. Roberts. After discussion, Trustee Fields moved, seconded by Trustee Bradford, to receive and place on file the November Financial Operating Statements and Balance Sheets for the Water, Electric, and Communications Utilities. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

The Competitive Quotes for Public Improvements Report was presented as previously submitted to all Board members. There were no items for approval.

Freedom Malik-Roberts and Sandy Stanley left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The November departmental reports were presented as previously submitted to all Board members. Ms. Cox reviewed the Fiber to the Home Project progress. Trustee Bradford moved, seconded by Trustee Fields, to receive and place on file the November Departmental Reports. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

Chairperson McGinnis asked if there were any other items of business. With no other items of business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

BOARD OF WATER, ELECTRIC, AND  
COMMUNICATIONS TRUSTEES OF  
THE CITY OF MUSCATINE, IOWA



Brenda Christensen  
Board Secretary